



# Colonial Soil & Water Conservation District

## Fiscal Year 2011 Annual Report

**Colonial**  
Soil and Water Conservation District  
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### Officers

#### Chair

Stephen Lueke

#### Vice Chair

Peter Henderson

#### Secretary

Archer Ruffin

#### Treasurer

Norman Hofmeyer

### Locality

*New Kent*

*James City*

*Charles City*

*Charles City*

### Directors

Jordan Anglin

*Williamsburg*

Charles Carter

*At Large-Charles City*

Charles Evelyn

*New Kent*

Harry Hager

*York*

Dan Leonard

*York*

Dan Nortman

*At Large-VCE*

Ed Overton

*James City*

Billy Scruggs

*Williamsburg*

### Associate Directors

Paul Davis

*New Kent*

### Personnel

Brian Noyes, District Manager

Valerie Temple, Administrative Officer

Jim Wallace, Agricultural Water Quality Specialist

The Colonial SWCD directors and staff would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the individuals and organizations that helped the District accomplish so much in the past year. Thanks in part to you, the stakeholders, the District has upheld its commitment to the preservation and restoration of our natural resources in Charles City County, James City County, New Kent County, York County and the City of Williamsburg, as well as, the surrounding areas. This annual report highlights our activities from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011.

**Colonial SWCD Mission:** To cooperate, communicate and educate landowners and operators, government agencies, schools, businesses and civic groups to preserve and protect our local natural resources. Use funds entrusted to provide technical and financial assistance as responsible stewards.

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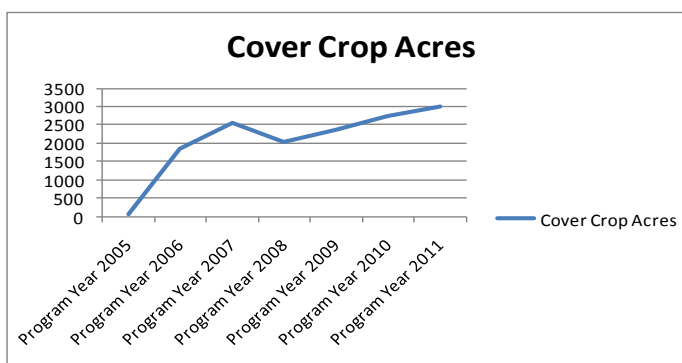
# Colonial SWCD Agricultural Program

## Virginia Agricultural Cost Share Program

As it has in the past, the Virginia Agricultural Cost Share Program contract continued to be the single largest contract which the Colonial SWCD administered during the fiscal year. With total funds of nearly \$267,000 to allocate to area farmers for the implementation of conservation practices, 99% of the allocation was delivered to its intended target. The focus of this year's VACS program was the elimination of fallow periods in cropping rotations. As a result, the following practices were implemented.

Conservation Practice	Cereal Cover Crops	Legume Cover Crops	Specialty (Vegetable) Cover Crops	All Contracted Nutrient Management Practices
Acres Benefitted	2,476.6	443.7	65.0	22,316.1

Participation in the VACS cover crop program has been increasing within the district over the past few years and is currently at record levels. With implementation of approximately 3,000 acres of cover crop this past year, nearly 10% of the district's available lands were "covered" by this efficient and effective conservation practice.



## Conservation Technology Information Center (CTIC) Conducts Conservation In Action Farm Tour

In early August of 2010 the Colonial SWCD played host to the CTIC's annual Conservation in Action Tour, which touted many of the area's pioneering conservationists/farmers. The 170 participants found out how agriculture protects water quality and improves soil health while enjoying stops at Renwood Farm, Westover Church, Shirley Plantation, and the home of the infamous "Boogie" Davis.



A social at the Waterman's Museum offered a sailing opportunity for the tour guests.



VA's Sec. of Natural Resources, Doug Domenech addresses the group.



After a long day of touring, the group sets down to a nice dinner on the Pamunkey River.

The Conservation Technology Information Center (CTIC) is a national, public-private partnership that envision agriculture using environmentally beneficial and economically viable natural resource systems.

# Colonial SWCD Educational Program

## JAMESTOWN HIGH SCHOOL COMPETES AT STATE ENVIROTHON

Representing the Colonial SWCD, the Jamestown High School Envirothon team finished second at the Area 3 (regional) competition held on April 14th in Gloucester, VA. The second place finish qualified the team for the State competition held at Camp Hanover in Mechanicsville, VA on May 22nd and 23rd where the team finished 4th. The Virginia Envirothon is a natural resources competition for high school students. Students who participate



Team members include (L to R Bottom): Vicki Hernandez, Melissa Callazzo, Billie Meacham, Molly Peet (coach), top - Charles Dubay (coach), Justin Colon, Paul Brosnan, Tim Cerilli, and Hunter Chapman.

learn stewardship and management concepts and work to solve real world and hypothetical problems. The program is field-oriented, community based, and gives students an opportunity to work with natural resource professionals. The Colonial SWCD proudly supports the Envirothon with educational and financial resources.

## New Kent 4th Graders at Davis Farm

Each year Colonial SWCD staff joins Virginia Cooperative Extension to host the 4th grade classes from the New Kent County school system at the farm of C.W. “Boogie” and Paul Davis. The children are treated to hands-on experiences dealing with soils, best management practices (BMPs), fresh water ecosystems, salt water ecosystems, farm equipment, and agricultural products. This educational opportunity allows students the chance to see and feel real life examples of things being taught as part of the Standards of Learning (SOL) curriculum. While the presenters try to drive home the SOL highlights, learning opportunities involving bald eagles, earthworms, large mouth bass, and blue crabs can’t be passed up.

## Ag in the Classroom at Watkins Elementary School

The Colonial SWCD joined VCE and Watkins Elementary School in celebrating National Agriculture Week. Making use of the Agriculture in the Classroom Learning Barn provided by the local Farm Bureau, volunteers read *Ready, Set, Grow! A Tour of Virginia Farms and Agriculture* to students - helping to educate them about agriculture in the Commonwealth.

The Learning Barn (right) contains books that support the SOLs, are agriculturally accurate, appeal to boys and girls and are appropriate for grades K-5.





# Colonial SWCD Urban Program

## Community Conservation Partnership Finishes in New Kent

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) Small Watershed grant project, which began in 2009 ended this past year with projects located in the Woodhaven Shores and Brickshire neighborhoods. In Brickshire, one project featured the clearing of a stormwater pond dam face and in another project the improvement of a stormwater outfall area. The Woodhaven Shores project featured the construction of a wooden stormwater crib which treats storm water surface flow within a landscape bed before releasing the water through a filtered pipe.

This stormwater outlet had been damaged due to inadequate outfall protection during construction. As a result, surface run off caused considerable erosion, including channel scouring and bank sloughing.



Filter cloth and rip rap were placed to provide outfall protection. Mulch and vegetation were installed to intercept surface flow, stabilize the area and prevent further erosion.



Trees and debris were removed from the dam face with all mulch chips returned to the site for stabilization purposes. The emergency spillway along with another channel was armored with riprap to prevent potential erosion during severe storm events.

This stormwater crib was placed at the headwaters of a 10 acre watershed to intercept flows that have severely eroded receiving stream channels and down stream properties.

